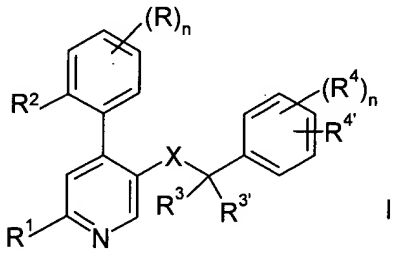
CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula



I

wherein

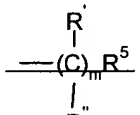
R is hydrogen or halogen;

R^1 is $-(C\equiv C)_mR^{1'}$ or $-(CR'=CR'')_mR^{1'}$

wherein $R^{1'}$ is

~~a) hydrogen or halogen,~~

~~b) cyano, or the following groups:~~

~~c)~~  ;

~~d) $-C(O)NR'R''$,~~

~~e) $-C(O)O(CH_2)_mR^5$;~~

~~f) $-C(O)R^5$;~~

~~g) $-N(OH)-(CH_2)_mR^5$;~~

~~h) $-NR'C(O)-(CH_2)_mR^5$;~~

~~i) $-N[C(O)-R']_2$;~~

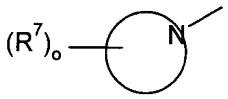
~~j) $-OR^6$;~~

~~k) $(CH_2)_m$-SR^6, $(CH_2)_m$-$S(O)R^6$, or $(CH_2)_m$-$S(O)_2R^6$;~~

~~l) aryl, unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_n$OR', -C(O)NR'R'', -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R',~~

~~m) is a five or six membered aromatic heterocycle, containing one to four heteroatoms, selected from N, O or S and , unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_n$OR', -C(O)OR', -C(O)NR'R'' or -C(O)R',~~

~~n)~~ is a ~~five or~~ six membered non-aromatic heterocycle of the formula



which ~~may contain~~ optionally has one additional heteroatom, selected from N, O or S,

~~R'/R'' are hydrogen, hydroxy, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl, wherein the lower alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl group is unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'''R'''', nitro, $(CH_2)_n$OR''', -C(O)NR'''R'''', -C(O)OR''' or -C(O)R''',~~

~~R'''/R'''' are independently from each other hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl,~~

~~R^5 is hydrogen, cyano, hydroxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -C(O)OR', -OC(O)R' or aryl, unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_n$OR', -C(O)NR'R'', -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R', or is a five or six membered heteroaryl group, containing one to four heteroatoms, selected from N, O or S,~~

~~unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, $-(CH_2)_nOR'$, -C(O)NR'R'', -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R',~~

~~R^6 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or aryl, wherein the lower alkyl or aryl group is unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, -C(O)NR'R'', $-(CH_2)_nOR'$, -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R', or is a five or six membered heteroaryl group, containing one to four heteroatoms, selected from N, O or S and is unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, $-(CH_2)_nOR'$, -C(O)NR'R'', -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R',~~

R^7 is $-C(O)-(CH_2)_mOH$ or an oxo group;

R^2 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen or CF_3;

$R^3/R^{3'}$ are <u>independently</u> hydrogen, lower alkyl ~~or form together with the carbon atom to which they are attached a cycloalkyl group;~~

$R^4/R^{4'}$ are hydrogen, halogen, CF_3, lower alkyl or lower alkoxy;

~~R and R^2 or R^4 and $R^{4'}$ may be together -CH=CH-CH=CH-, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from lower alkyl, halogen or lower alkoxy;~~

X is $-C(O)N(R^8)-$, ~~$-(CH_2)_pO-$, $-(CH_2)_pN(R^8)-$,~~ <u>or</u> $-N(R^8)C(O)-$ ~~or $-N(R^8)-(CH_2)_p-$;~~ wherein R^8 is hydrogen or lower alkyl;

n is 1 or 2;

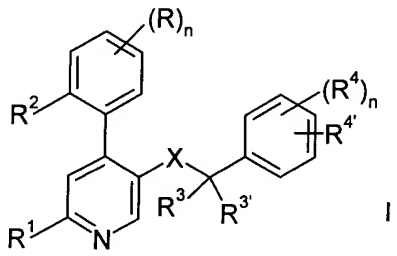
m is 0, ~~1, 2, 3 or 4;~~ <u>and</u>

o is 1 or 2; ~~and~~

~~p is 1 or 2;~~

or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula



I

wherein

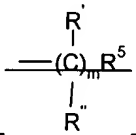
R is hydrogen or halogen;

R^1 is $-(C\equiv C)_mR^{1'}$ or $-(CR'=CR'')_mR^{1'}$

wherein $R^{1'}$ is

~~a) halogen,~~

~~b) cyano, or the following groups:~~



~~c)~~ ;

~~d) $-C(O)NR'R''$,~~

~~e) $-C(O)O(CH_2)_mR^5$;~~

~~f) $-C(O)R^5$;~~

~~g) $-N(OH)-(CH_2)_mR^5$;~~

~~h) $-NR'C(O)-(CH_2)_mR^5$;~~

~~i) $-N[C(O)-R']_2$;~~

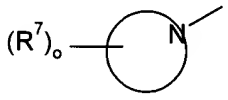
~~j) OR^6,~~

~~k) SR^6, $S(O)R^6$, or $S(O)_2R^6$,~~

~~l) aryl, unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_nOR'$, C(O)NR'R'', C(O)OR' or C(O)R',~~

~~m) is a five or six membered heteroaryl group, containing one to four heteroatoms, selected from N, O or S and is unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_nOR'$, C(O)OR', C(O)NR'R'' or C(O)R',~~

n) is a ~~five or~~ six membered non-aromatic heterocycle of the formula



or a ~~five or~~ six membered non-aromatic heterocycle ~~containing~~ having one additional heteroatom, selected from N, O or S,

~~R'/R'' are hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl, unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, NR'''R'''', nitro, $(CH_2)_nOR'''$, C(O)NR'''R'''', C(O)OR''' or C(O)R''',~~

~~R'''/R'''' are independently from each other hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl,~~

~~R^5 is hydrogen, cyano, hydroxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, C(O)OR' or aryl, unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituents, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_nOR'$, C(O)NR'R'', C(O)OR' or C(O)R', or is a five or six membered heteroaryl group, containing one to four heteroatoms, selected from N, O or S and is unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituents, selected from~~

~~halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_nOR'$, -C(O)NR'R'', -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R',~~

~~R^6 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or aryl,~~

~~unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituents, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, -C(O)NR'R'', $(CH_2)_nOR'$, -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R', or is a five or six membered heteroaryl group, containing one to four heteroatoms, selected from N, O or S and is unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, cyano, hydroxy, -NR'R'', nitro, $(CH_2)_nOR'$, -C(O)NR'R'', -C(O)OR' or -C(O)R',~~

R^7 is $-C(O)-(CH_2)_mOH$ or an oxo group;

R^2 is ~~hydrogen,~~ lower alkyl, ~~lower alkoxy,~~ halogen or CF_3;

$R^3/R^{3'}$ are hydrogen, ~~lower alkyl or form together with the carbon atom to which they are attached a cycloalkyl group;~~

$R^4/R^{4'}$ are hydrogen, halogen, CF_3, lower alkyl or lower alkoxy;

~~R and R^2 or R^4 and $R^{4'}$ may be together -CH=CH-CH=CH-, unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from lower alkyl, halogen or lower alkoxy;~~

X is $-C(O)N(R^8)-$, ~~$(CH_2)_pO$-, $(CH_2)_pN(R^8)$-,~~ or $-N(R^8)C(O)-$ ~~or $N(R^8)(CH_2)_p$-;~~

wherein R^8 is hydrogen or lower alkyl;

n is 1 or 2;

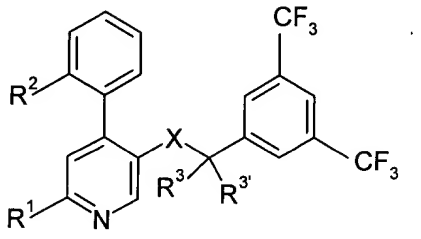
m is 0 ~~to 4;~~ and

o is 1 or 2; ~~and~~

~~p is 1 or 2;~~

or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula IA according to claim 1,



IA

wherein

R^1 is ~~halogen, $-(CH_2)_mCN$, -C(O)O-lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_mOH$, $-N(OH)(CH_2)_mOH$, $-N(R)C(O)-(CH_2)_mOC(O)$-lower alkyl, $-N[C(O)$-cycloalkyl$]_2$, $-N(R)C(O)-(CH_2)_mOH$, pyridin-2,3,4-yl or phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted by lower alkyl, lower alkoxy or hydroxy or is~~ morpholinyl or piperazinyl, substituted by $-C(O)-(CH_2)_mOH$ or oxy group(s),

R is hydrogen or halogen;

R^2 is lower alkyl or halogen;

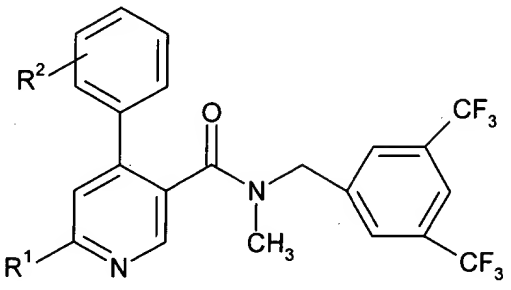
$R^3/R^{3'}$ are hydrogen or lower alkyl;

X is $-C(O)N(R^8)-$ or $-N(R^8)C(O)-$;

R^8 is hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

m is ~~1 or 2~~ 0.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim ~~71~~ 1 having the formula



1-100

wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined above.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4, ~~further comprising~~ wherein R^2 ~~being~~ is lower alkyl.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 5 ~~further comprising~~ wherein R^2 ~~being~~ is 2-methyl.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim ~~7~~ 1 wherein the compound is N-(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-6-(4-hydroxyacetyl-piperazin-1-yl)-N-methyl-4-o-tolyl-nicotinamide.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim ~~7~~ 1 wherein the compound is 4-o-Tolyl-1',2',3',6'-tetrahydro-[2,4']bipyridinyl-5-carboxylic acid (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methyl-amide.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).

18. (Canceled).

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Canceled).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Canceled).

25. (Canceled).

26. (Canceled).

27. (Canceled).

28. (Canceled).

29. (Canceled).

30. (Canceled).

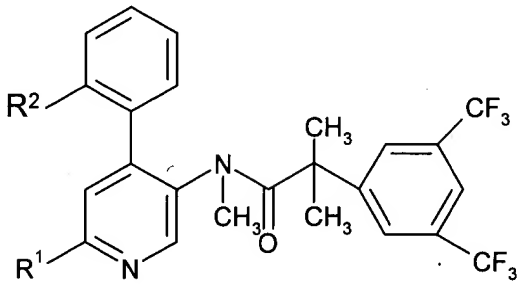
31. (Canceled).

32. (Canceled).

33. (Canceled).

34. (Canceled).

35. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim ~~71~~ 1 having the structure



1-101

wherein R^1 and R^2 are as above.

36. (Canceled).

37. (Canceled).

38. (Canceled).

39. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 35 ~~further comprising~~ wherein R^2 is ~~being~~ halogen.

40. (Original) A compound according to claim 39 wherein said halogen is 2-Chloro.

41. (Canceled).

42. (Original) A compound according to claim 40 wherein the compound is 2-(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-N-[4-(2-chloro-phenyl)-6-(3-oxo-morpholin-4-yl)-pyridin-3-yl]-N-methyl-isobutyramide.

43. (Canceled).

44. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 35 ~~further comprising~~ wherein R^2 ~~being~~ is lower alkyl.

45. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 44 wherein R^2 is methyl.

46. (Canceled).

47. (Canceled).

48. (Canceled).

49. (Canceled).

50. (Canceled).

51. (Canceled).

52. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim ~~50~~ 1 wherein the compound is 2-(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-N-methyl-N-[6-(3-oxo-morpholin-4-yl)-4-o-tolyl-pyridin-3-yl]-isobutyramide.

53. (Canceled).

54. (Canceled).

55. (Canceled).

56. (Canceled).

57. (Canceled).

58. (Canceled).

59. (Canceled).

60. (Canceled).

61. (Canceled).

62. (Canceled).

63. (Canceled).

64. (Canceled).

65. (Canceled).

66. (Canceled).

67. (Canceled).

68. (Canceled).

69. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition ~~containing~~ comprising a compound of claim 1 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

70. (Canceled).

71. (Canceled)

72. (Canceled).

73. (Canceled)

74. (Canceled)

75. (Canceled)

76. (Canceled).

77. (Canceled).

78. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 5-[(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methyl-carbamoyl]-4-o-tolyl-3',6'-dihydro-2'H-[2,4']bipyridinyl-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester.

79. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 1'-Cyclopropylmethyl-4-o-tolyl-1',2',3',6'-tetrahydro-[2,4']bipyridinyl-5-carboxylic acid (3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-benzyl)-methyl-amide

80. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is 5-{[2-(3,5-Bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-methyl-propionyl]-methyl-amino}-4-o-tolyl-3',6'-dihydro-2'H-[2,4']bipyridinyl-1'-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester